

DECLARES TAYLOR WAS CARELESS

Chairman of Bridge Committee Takes Rap at City Engineer.

Why is an expert engineer? The answer to this question is being sought by members of the bridge committee of the executive board. Mr. A. Grondahl, J. W. Moffett and R. L. Donald, three alleged experts in reinforced concrete construction, were employed by the city to inspect the East Twenty-eighth street bridge and make a report to the bridge committee which would enable it to determine whether or not the plans and specifications had been followed by the contractor, and whether the city should pay for the work.

The council at the request of the board and the mayor appropriated \$500 to pay for the services of the experts. Several months have passed since then and the experts have made their report, a half dozen lengthy, ineffectual, and unhelpful. The committee has been collecting by the committee from a score of witnesses, the bridge has been picked to pieces in all senses of the phrase, yet the controversy seems to be no nearer a settlement than it was weeks ago. If the mayor or one of the bridge committee is asked to say what is going to be done, he assumes a mysterious air and wisely says "wait."

The bridge committee held another of its monotonous meetings yesterday and for the first time the gumshoe methods were departed from. Chairman Estery charged that the engineer's office had been grossly negligent in checking up the work of the contractor and in its general supervision of the contract. City Engineer Taylor interrupted Mr. Estery to declare that he himself had been at fault. Mr. Taylor has always maintained that the bridge in question was built, according to specifications and that it should have been accepted by the city in spite of a few minor defects.

The evidence of the contractor's own engineers corroborates that of witnesses for the city, that the plans and specifications were not strictly adhered to in several instances and that the city engineer's department consented to all variations.

From the testimony of J. R. Bowles of the Northwest Works, the firm that built the bridge, it was gathered by the committee that the blame for the most noticeable defect of all, the crack in the south abutment, is indirectly chargeable to the city engineer's office, for if the testimony is true, an inaccurate map of the ground was furnished to the company's engineers and as a result the concrete abutment which supports the abutment had to be constructed.

The city engineer was not permitted to enter a defense of his department at yesterday's meeting, but from remarks dropped by the mayor, it seems that he will in all probability be given a chance to make a statement.

At the conclusion of the meeting yesterday some of the members of the committee declared they would not vote to pay for the bridge until the company agreed to remedy defects pointed out by the experts. What these defects are no one has yet been able to show to

FAIRPORT

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GREGORY INVESTMENT COMPANY
INVEST YOUR RENT MONEY IN A HOME OF YOUR OWN.
See advertisement next Sunday.

INSTITUTE CLUB'S ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting and reception of the Institute club will be held next Tuesday afternoon at the People's Institute, corner Fourth and Burnside streets, and at which time a review of the year's work will be given, with the report of the director, Miss Valentine Frickard, and of the teachers in charge of the various departments and clubs. An exhibition will be made of the children's work in the sewing classes and domestic department in the gymnasium.

The reception is under the direction of Mrs. T. B. Wilcox, who will be assisted in serving by many society women. The executive board of the institute club is as follows: President, Mrs. Helen Ladd Corbett; first vice-president, Mrs. T. B. Wilcox; second vice-president, Mrs. J. G. Gault; secretary, Mrs. William Mackenzie; treasurer, Mrs. Charles Ladd; chairman of the finance committee, Mrs. George Simons; chairman of the woman's department, Mrs. A. H. Tanner; chairman of the children's department, Mrs. Simon; director, Miss Valentine Frickard.

All members of the institute club and friends are urged to be present at the annual meeting.

OPENING OF LYTLE ROAD AGAIN DELAYED

Thirty pieces of equipment for the new Lytle road have been lying in the terminal yards at Portland for a month awaiting transportation to Tillamook. Owing to a recent and absence of proper transportation facilities the equipment has had to be held here and the opening of the road by the Lytle line has been postponed for another month or so.

It was the plan of the officials of the road to begin operating the line between Tillamook, Bay City, Garibaldi and other points near the coast. No steamer has been found that is willing to risk taking a deckload of cars and locomotives during the winter, and the equipment probably cannot be sent around until the last of February or March.

It was the plan of the officials of the line to still being delayed considerably by the difficulties met with in having to ship everything for the winter of the western end of the Columbia river and the sea to Tillamook.

THREE NEW CLERKS IN THE POSTOFFICE

The three additional clerks for the general delivery windows at the Portland postoffice, allowed some time ago by the department at Washington at Postmaster Minto's request, will go to work February 1. Those who will be appointed are: J. M. Young, Jay V. Pike and Lionel F. Taylor.

Two additional carriers, one for the downtown district, and the other for station A, have been recommended by Postmaster Minto. In the event that the request is allowed the two additional carriers will be put to work as soon as possible.

The business of the office in Portland has been growing steadily and the recommendation for clerks and carriers is strong evidence of this fact and the extent to which it is increasing.

SAYS STRONG DRINK RUINED HER HOME

Alleging that her husband contracted the drinking habit after their marriage, Marie Cornelius has begun suit for divorce in the circuit court. The plaintiff says Conrad Cornelius deserted her in July 1906 and asks the custody of their seven-year-old son. They were married in Portland October 12, 1905.

V. F. Irish sues for divorce from Cora Irish on a statutory ground. He desires the custody of their one-year-old girl. They were married in February, 1906.

On the ground of cruel and inhuman treatment, Lottie Anderson demands a divorce from Edgar W. Anderson. They were married in San Francisco in July, 1906. The plaintiff wishes to resume her former name, Lottie Lant.

Only One "BROMO QUININE"
That is LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE. Look for the signature of E. W. Grove. Used the World over to Cure a Cold in One Day. 25c.
Eye glasses, \$1 at Metzger's.

NEW CHARTER IS DISCUSSED

The new charter was discussed for two hours last night by Judge Henry E. McGinn, of the charter revision commission, in the office of C. H. Rafferty before a delegation of representatives from the East Side Trust clubs.

Judge McGinn dwelt on nearly every subject of importance on which the commission has acted, his principal arguments being on the proposed method of making property pay for all water mains, the civil service and the lengths of the terms for which the mayor and city councilmen are to be elected.

Most of the delegates present seemed unfavorable to the new provision for laying of water mains and it was declared that the people would vote down the whole new charter if it were allowed to remain.

The civil service, too, met with a cool reception and the opinion that it should be eliminated was expressed. Judge McGinn declared that he was not in favor of it in centralized city government but said that the commission, so far, had favored it.

It was suggested that the delegates from the push clubs attend a meeting of the charter commission and ask that the water and civil service questions be referred to the people separate from the charter.

A resolution endorsing the reappointment of C. H. Rafferty to the water board and congratulating him on his many years of service on that board was unanimously adopted.

CHEAP THEATRES ARE FIRE TRAPS, HE SAYS

Isaac Swett has again called the attention of Mayor Lane and the fire committee of the executive board to the dangerous conditions that obtain in the penny arcades and cheap theatres of the city. He declares that the moving picture theatre on the north side of Washington street, between Sixth and Seventh streets, is a veritable fire trap, as the narrow room is crowded to suffocation during every performance and the only exit is through the front door.

Five other theatres, he says, the theatre in question complies with the fire ordinance and that it has passed the inspection of the department. The fire committee of the board will investigate and if it is found that the laws are not sufficient to overcome the evils that exist, a new ordinance will be recommended to the council.

NOW ALLOWED TO EXCHANGE STAMPS

Postal rules and regulations with reference to the redemption of stamped paper have been amended to read as follows:

"Whenever, through inadvertence, a postmaster sells damaged or unserviceable postage stamps, international reply coupons, stamped envelopes or postal cards, or when a patron through error purchases postage stamps of the wrong denomination, or stamped envelopes of the wrong color, quality, size or denomination, or newspaper wrappers of the wrong denomination, or postal cards of the wrong size, it shall be permissible for postmasters to exchange such stamped paper at full value, provided that it is presented for exchange by the original purchaser thereof within a reasonable time after the sale, not to exceed two business days."

SPIRIT TELEPHONES TO UNSEEN WORLD

Scientists are investigating the phenomena of so-called "spirit communications." There are several theories as to a solution of the complex problems. In view of the prominence that has been given the subject an article has been prepared for The Sunday Journal of next Sunday entitled "Spirit Telephones to an Unseen World."

Get The Sunday Journal and read the story. Fine color plate illustrations.

PLAN OF BANKS FROWNED UPON

Charter Changers Prevent Scheme for Lending City's Cash.

The charter revision commission yesterday afternoon spent most of its time discussing a proposal made by City Treasurer Werlein to have the commission insert a provision in the new charter by which the surplus gold in the deposit vaults could be lent to banks giving surety bonds as security.

The charter commission for another time was unanimous—not to adopt this suggestion. Every member took occasion to say that the present conservative system is satisfactory.

The city treasurer intimated that the banks of Portland had brought great pressure to bear upon him to secure the approval of the commission for his project. He declared that he would have to submit the proposition to the people of the charter commission does not give it attention.

"Go ahead, then," said Chairman McGinn. "If the banks of this city want to use the city's money so badly as that the people ought to know about it."

The commission will continue its work tonight, when the report of the finance committee will be, in all probability, approved. The report does not materially change the present system of handling city money.

While the charter commission did not recommend any radical departure from the methods of handling city moneys, an important clause was added to the charter for the benefit of small banks. At present the charter only permits of the lending of money to banks that have a capitalization of \$50,000 or more. The amendment, if passed, will give the same privileges to banks that have a capitalization of not less than \$25,000.

COUNCIL ADOPTS NEW PROCEDURE

The council yesterday rescinded proceedings on more than 50 improvement ordinances and adopted a new method for the introduction of such proceedings in future. By resolution, it was agreed that hereafter whenever an improvement is to be made, the city engineer shall first be consulted and his approval of a resolution to improve shall be necessary. In case of a remonstrance the council shall take no action without first consulting the councilman in whose ward the improvement is to be made.

The resolution was introduced by Councilman Rushlight with the object of preventing unnecessary delays in the routine of improvement proceedings.

The mayor, executive board and city engineer were criticised by some of the council for not letting contracts that in some instances exceed the engineer's estimate. Councilman Belding said that he was informed that the engineer had reduced his estimate by 10 per cent.

Mayor Lane admitted that a 10 per cent reduction was made, but declared that this was only done as a precautionary measure for the charter provision which allows the board to let contracts, the bids on which are not in excess of 10 per cent above the engineer's estimate had led to the practice by contractors of submitting high bids and making the "take off" legally provided.

PERSONALS

Governor Cogrove of Washington, who was inaugurated in Olympia yesterday afternoon, will arrive in Portland Saturday morning bound for Paso Robles hot springs. He will spend Saturday resting in Portland and will leave for California 10:30 Sunday morning.

Grand Opening.
Harvard Painless Dentists, corner Park and Washington streets, over Royal Bakery, Saturday, January 30. Music by Lind's string quartet, afternoon and evening.

Metzger's Jewelers and Opticians, 342 Washington st., bet. 7th and Park.

NEW LINCOLN STAMPS APPEAR FEBRUARY 12

Postmaster Minto has received word from the department officials at Washington that the Lincoln commemorative stamp will be placed on sale in Portland February 12. The new issue of stamps will be put on sale about the same time, having been ordered weeks ago. The Lincoln sticker is of the 2 cent denomination of special design, and is issued by the government to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

This stamp is of the size and shape of the regular issue of postage stamps, its color being red. The subject is a profile within an ellipse on end, of the head of Lincoln from Saint Gaudens' statue. A spray of laurel leaves appears on the other side of the ellipse. Above the subject appear the words, "U. S. Postage."

Below the ellipse is broken by a ribbon containing the dates of Lincoln's birth and of his one hundredth anniversary—"1809, February 12, 1909"—with the denomination in words—"Two Cents"—beneath.

DTT Fir Cordwood.
Saved or four-foot length. Main 65; A-1655. Oregon Fuel company.

Spectacles at Metzger's.

OWNERS OF PROPERTY USED FOR IMMORAL PURPOSES THREATENED

That the owners and lessees of property used for immoral purposes may soon be brought face to face with the grand jury and later with trial juries will probably be the result of an order from Chief Gratzmacher to his men that hereafter complaints are to be laid before the city attorney rather than before the district attorney, who would begin proceedings under the broad and severe state law.

Deputy District Attorney Hennessy, however, says that whenever evidence reaches him that the state law was being violated he will take the matter up with District Attorney Cameron with a view to having the evidence laid before the grand jury. This will involve the owners and lessees of the property.

Neither an owner nor a lessee, nor the actual manager of the house can be reached under the city ordinance, but it has several times been given out at the district attorney's office that whenever the evidence warrants it both the owners and lessees of property used for immoral purposes will be held responsible, under the state law.

Chief Gratzmacher gives as his reason for his order that the police court is the proper place to bring ordinary cases in which policemen are concerned, and that when a state charge is laid the officers lose much time by being forced to attend the sessions of the grand jury or of the circuit court. He has also ordered that no officer shall sign a complaint until he has laid his evidence before the chief.

The chief's order is considered to be the result of the arrests made in two lodging houses on North Sixth street by a policeman Tuesday night. The officers, Swenne, had laid evidence before Deputy District Attorney Hennessy and was preparing to sign a complaint under the state law when the chief ordered him to take the matter to the city attorney.

By this time, however, Hennessy had heard the testimony of a woman arrested at the Elgion, 62 1/2 Sixth street north, and is today considering the advisability of taking the matter to the grand jury. If C. C. Glens, the lessee of the property, declares that he did not manage the lodging house and that he did not know any undesirable were lodging there.

Evidence in the case of Mrs. N. L. Slocum, proprietor of the Hotel Van Noye, Third and Pine streets, and of the Hotel Kenyon, Eighteenth and Washington streets, has already been heard by the grand jury. Mrs. Emma Hendon, manager of the Cadillac, Third and Columbia streets, has also been bound over to appear before the grand jury, the owners of the property in this instance having been able to prove that they had no knowledge of the class of inmates the house was sheltering.

SENATE SNUB FOR CIVIC FEDERATION

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Washington, Jan. 23.—Recommending the rejection of a bill proposed by the National Civic Federation for an amendment to the Sherman anti-trust law, the senate committee on commerce, through a report by Senator Nelson of Minnesota, casts a severe contempt on the legal ability of the advisors of the federation and also of President Roosevelt, who urged the adoption of the measure.

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The Latest Styles in Ladies' Suits

New arrivals are now shown in our Ladies' Cloak and Suit Department, and they are priced right. This department has won a very gratifying success, owing to the fact that our garments are always new, up-to-date and made of the best materials and moderately priced.

Prices Are Fully 33 Per Cent Lower Here Than at the Exclusive Stores

Then our easy terms make buying here a great convenience. A small cash deposit, then

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Select one from our Jewelry Department and pay

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